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Dominican selected College of Distinction for 2015-16

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Dominican selected College of Distinction for 2015-16

Dominican University of California was selected as a College of Distinction for the 2015-2016 academic year in recognition of outstanding student engagement, quality teaching, a vibrant campus community, and the success of its graduates.

[*Colleges of Distinction*](#) is a college guide focused on colleges where students can best learn, grow, and succeed. Schools are nominated by high school teachers and college counselors. The selection process reviews such factors as the school's first year experience, general education program, experiential components of the curriculum, the strategic plan, and alumni success and satisfaction.

"Colleges of Distinction provides more than just a ranking or a tally of test scores, Tyson Schritter, the executive editor of Colleges of Distinction, said when announcing this year's list of colleges. "We identify colleges that offer every student an educationally rewarding experience. The Colleges of Distinction have earned solid reputations for nurturing and serving their students across every measure."

Dominican has earned numerous awards and recognition in recent years.

For six years in a row, *U.S. News & World Report* has ranked Dominican as one of the top universities in the West. Dominican ranked 33 in the top tier, which also includes Santa Clara University, Gonzaga University, California State Polytechnic University – Pomona, Sonoma State University, and San Francisco State University.

In June, Dominican received the [PacWest Academic Achievement Award](#) for an unprecedented sixth consecutive season. The Penguins displayed their prowess in the classroom once again with the highest cumulative grade-point average in the Pacific West Conference.

This spring Dominican was named to the [President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll](#) by the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS). CNCS, the federal agency for volunteering and service, has administered the award since 2006 in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Education and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, as well as the American Council on Education, Campus Compact, and the Interfaith Youth Core.

The Honor Roll covers the 12-month period ending June 30. During that time, students in [Dominican's Service-Learning program](#) have engaged in more than 11,000 hours of community service, to the benefit of more than 40 nonprofit and community agencies while impacting more than 3,000 individuals.

Also this spring, Dominican received the [2015 Community Engagement Classification](#) from the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching in recognition of the University's exemplary institutional focus on community engagement.

Community engagement is central to Dominican's mission and an essential component of the University's broader focus on engaged learning, which incorporates active, collaborative learning in the classroom with enriching educational experiences beyond the classroom.

This commitment will grow as the University advances a campus-wide planning process with a goal of defining a distinctive Dominican educational model - the Dominican Experience - that is comprehensive and values-based.